AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (previously presented) A biosensor comprising:
- a) at least one mutated glucose/galactose binding protein having at least one substituted or added cysteine group; and
- b) at least one sensor surface wherein said mutated binding protein is coupled through said cysteine group to said surface;

wherein said at least one sensor surface provides a detectable signal resulting from a change in refractive index when said mutated binding protein binds to analyte.

- 2. (canceled).
- 3. (original) The biosensor of claim 1 wherein said analyte is glucose or galactose.
- 4. (previously presented) The biosensor of claim 1 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein has one amino acid substitution.
- 5. (previously presented) The biosensor of claim 1 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein has at least two amino acid substitutions.
- 6. (currently amended) The biosensor of claim 1 wherein said mutated glucose binding protein includes one amino acid substitution selected from the group consisting of a cysteine at position

11, a cysteine at position 14, a cysteine at position 19, a cysteine at position 43, a cysteine at position 74, a cysteine at position 107, a cysteine at position 110, a cysteine at position 112, a cysteine at position 113, [], [] a cysteine at position 149, a cysteine at position 213, a cysteine at position 216, a cysteine at position 238, a cysteine at position 287, and a cysteine at position 292.

- 7. (currently amended) The biosensor of claim 4 wherein said mutated binding protein has at least one histidine tags tag.
- 8. (previously presented) The biosensor of claim 1 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein includes a cysteine present at position 213.
- 9. (currently amended) The biosensor of 8 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein further includes a histidine tag.
- 10. (currently amended) The biosensor of claim 1 wherein said mutated glucose glucose/galactose binding protein includes a cysteine present at position 149 coupled to said sensor surface.
- 11. (currently amended) The biosensor of <u>claim</u> 10 wherein said mutated <u>glucose</u> <u>glucose/galactose</u> binding protein further includes a histidine tag.
- 12. (currently amended) The biosensor of claim 5 wherein said mutated glucose glucose/galactose binding protein includes at least two amino acid substitutions selected from the

group consisting of: a cysteine at position 112 and a serine at position 238, a cysteine at position 149 and a serine at position 238, a cysteine at position 152 and a cysteine at position 182, a cysteine at position 152 and a serine at position 213, a cysteine at position 213 and a cysteine at position 238, a cysteine at position 149 and an arginine at position 213, a cysteine at position 149 and a serine at position 213 and a serine at position 238, and a cysteine at position 149 and an arginine at position 213 and a serine at position 238 coupled to said sensor surface.

13. (currently amended) The biosensor of <u>claim</u> 12 wherein said mutated <u>glucose</u> <u>glucose/galactose</u> binding protein further includes a histidine tag.

14. (withdrawn) Λ method for analyte detection comprising:

- a) providing at least one mutated binding protein and at least one thiol group attached thereto;
- at least one sensor surface wherein said mutated binding protein is coupled
 through said thiol group to said surface;
- exposing said mutated binding protein to biological solutions containing varying analyte concentrations;
- d) detecting a detectable and reversible signal resulting from a change in refractive index;

wherein said detectable and reversible signal results from a change in refractive index upon binding corresponding to said varying analyte concentrations.

- 15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14 wherein said detecting is continuous, programmed, episodic, or combinations thereof.
- 16. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14 wherein said at least one mutated binding protein is glucose/galactose binding protein.
- 17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14 wherein said detecting of detectable and reversible signals of varying analyte concentrations is *in vivo*.
- 18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein said analyte is glucose or galactose.
- 19. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein is selected from bacterial periplasmic binding proteins.
- 20. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein said detecting of detectable and reversible signals from said reporter group of varying glucose concentrations is *in vivo*.
- 21. (withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein has one amino acid substitution.
- 22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein said mutated glucose/galactose binding protein has at least two amino acid substitutions.

23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said one amino acid substitution is selected from the group consisting of a cysteine at position 11, a cysteine at position 14, a cysteine at position 19, a cysteine at position 43, a cysteine at position 74, a cysteine at position 107, a cysteine at position 110, a cysteine at position 112, a cysteine at position 113, a cysteine at position 137, a cysteine at position 149, a cysteine at position 213, a cysteine at position 216, a cysteine at position 238, a cysteine at position 287, and a cysteine at position 292.

24. (withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein said glucose/galactose binding protein has at least one histidine tag.

25. (withdrawn) The method of claim 22 wherein said glucose/galactose binding protein has at least two amino acid substitutions selected from the group consisting of a cysteine at position 112 and a serine at position 238, a cysteine at position 149 and a serine at position 238, a cysteine at position 152 and a cysteine at position 182, a cysteine at position 152 and a serine at position 213, a cysteine at position 213 and a cysteine at position 238, a cysteine at position 149 and an arginine at position 213, a cysteine at position 149 and a serine at position 213 and a serine at position 238, and a cysteine at position 149 and an arginine at position 213 and a serine at position 238.

26. (withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein said glucose/galactose binding protein has at least one histidine tag.

- 27. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein said detectable and reversible signal is detected by surface plasmon resonance-based means.
- 28. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein said detectable and reversible signal is detected by long period grating-based means.